

Message Text

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PINT, GW
SUBJECT: MUNICH CSU ISSUES "REDBOOK" DOCUMENTING LEFT-
RIGHT SPLIT IN MUNICH SPD

1. SUMMARY. THE CSU HAS PUBLISHED A "REDBOOK" WHICH
PURPORTS TO DOCUMENT THE MUNICH SPD'S GRADUAL BUT VERY
CONSIDERABLE SHIFT TO THE LEFT IN THE PERIOD FROM 1970
TO THE PRESENT. THE "REDBOOK" IS LIKELY TO HAVE THE
EFFECT OF DIMINISHING FURTHER THE SPD'S ALREADY RATHER
DIM PROSPECTS IN THE MARCH 5 MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS IN
MUNICH. END SUMMARY.

2. FIVE CSU BUNDESTAG DEPUTIES FROM MUNICH HELD PRESS
CONFERENCE ON SHORT NOTICE JANUARY 30 TO ANNOUNCE
PUBLICATION OF A 79-PAGE "REDBOOK" DOCUMENTING THE
MUNICH SPD'S SHIFT TO THE LEFT IN THE PERIOD SINCE 1970.
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PUBLICATION IS ENTITLED "REDBOOK ON THE DEVELOPMENT OF
THE MUNICH SPD" AND IS SUBTITLED "THE SEVEN YEARS WAR." 1

3. THE "REDBOOK",WHOSE TITLE PLAYS ON THE FACT THAT IN
CENTRAL EUROPE RED IS THE COLOR OF THE SOCIALISTS,
CONTAINS 130 NEWSPAPER CLIPPINGS AND/OR QUOTES FROM
PRESS STORIES DEALING WITH THE GRADUAL TAKEOVER IN THE

PERIOD FROM 1970 TO THE PRESENT OF MUNICH SPD BY "LEFTIST" FORCES. THE CLIPPINGS AND QUOTES, WHICH ARE PRINTED IN BLACK INK, ARE ACCOMPANIED BY RED-INK COMMENTARY AIMED AT HIGHLIGHTING SHARP DIFFERENCES IN VIEW BETWEEN RIGHT AND LEFT WING ELEMENTS IN THE MUNICH SPD.

4. "REDBOOK" WAS PUBLISHED IN 50,000 COPIES AND MUNICH CSU PRESS SPOKESMAN STATED THAT COPIES WOULD BE SENT TO EACH WORKS COUNCIL (BETRIEBSRAT) IN MUNICH.

5. AT THE PRESS CONFERENCE, CSU BUNDESTAG DEPUTY HANS (JOHNNY) KLEIN CLAIMED HYPERBOLICALLY THAT IF SPD LORD MAYOR CANDIDATE VON HECKEL CAME TO POWER THROUGH MARCH 5 MUNICIPAL ELECTION, HE WOULD LEAD MUNICH DOWN PATH TOWARD A "SOVIET REPUBLIC AT THE COMMUNAL LEVEL." (N.B. AMONG SOPHISTICATED POLITICAL OBSERVERS, TERM "SOVIET REPUBLIC --RAETEREPUBLIK INGERMAN -- CONJURES UP MEMORIES OF THE LENINGRAD SOVIET OF WORKERS AND SOLDIERS DEPUTIES OF 1917 AND THE 1919 KURT EISNER REVOLUTION IN BAVARIA.)

6. MUNICH SPD CHAIRMAN AND LORD MAYOR CANDIDATE MAX VON HECKEL LABELED THE CSU "REDBOOK" AS "OLD, UNMARKETABLE POLITICAL JUNK"(LADENHUETER). HE EXPRESSED HIS CONVICTION THAT PEOPLE OF MUNICH WON'T LIKE IT IF A PARTY WHICH LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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HAS NO REPEAT NO ACHIEVEMENTS OF ITS OWN TO OFFER MALIGNS ITS POLITICAL OPPONENT.

7. COMMENT. THE PRESS CLIPPINGS IN THE CSU "REDBOOK" CONSTITUTE A RATHER REMARKABLE CHRONOLOGY OF THE DEVELOPMENTS WHICH HAVE MARKED THE MILEPOSTS IN THE TAKEOVER, IN THE COURSE OF THE PAST FEW YEARS, BY LEFTIST ELEMENTS, OFTEN QUITE DOCTRINAIRE ONES, OF THE MODERATE AND ELECTORIALY HIGHLY SUCCESSFUL SPD MACHINE HEAD-HEADQUARTERED IN MUNICH CITY HALL. THE RED-INK COMMENTARY WHICH ACCOMPANIES THE CLIPPINGS IS SURPRISINGLY RESTRAINED.

8. CONGEN VIEWS "REDBOOK" AS CLEVER, PAINSTAKING EFFORT TO REMIND MODERATE SPD SUPPORTERS OF MUNICH SPD'S SHIFT TO LEFT AND TO ENGENDER A DEEP DISTASTE FOR PRESENT LEADERSHIP OF MUNICH SPD. THE "REDBOOK" SEEMS CERTAIN TO HAVE AN ADVERSE IMPACT ON THE SPD'S ALREADY BLEAK PROSPECTS IN THE MARCH 5 MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS.

9. IT WAS NOT REPEAT NOT BY ACCIDENT THAT THE CSU PRESS CONFERENCE ANNOUNCING PUBLICATION OF THE "REDBOOK" WAS

HELD IN THE SAME HOTEL AND PRECEDED BY ONLY SEVERAL

HOURS THE PRESS CONFERENCE WHICH FOLLOWED THE SPD FEDERAL
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE (BUNDESVORSTAND) MEETING IN MUNICH.
THE CSU PRESS CONFERENCE HAD THE EFFECT OF UPSTAGING THE
SPD FEDERAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE'S ATTEMPT TO PROJECT A
SHOW OF SPD SOLIDARITY IN MUNICH. BETTS

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